

THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 1964.

BAR TO MRS. NHU URGED BY LODGE

Washington Expects Protest She Writes to President

By MAX FRANKEL

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, June 24—Administration officials, bracing for a minor political squall, made known today that they barred Mrs. Ngo Dinh Nhu from the United States at the strong urging of Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge in South Vietnam.

Mr. Lodge, who is resigning and returning from Saigon to join the fight for control of the Republican party, sent Washington two strong messages on the subject. He said the present Government of South Vietnam would misunderstand the admission of the sister-in-law of the country's former President, Ngo Dinh Diem, who was overthrown and slain last Nov. 20.

Several Republican members of Congress, led by Representative Katharine St. George of Tuxedo Park, had urged the Administration to admit Mrs. Nhu or risk a storm of political protest.

At one point, the State Department indicated that it would process her application quickly. But Mrs. Nhu's sharp letters to the White House and to Secretary of State Dean Rusk, Mr. Lodge's advice and the direct representations of the Government of South Vietnam led to a ruling against her.

Application Made June 11

Mrs. Nhu, the widow of President Ngo Dinh Diem's brother and chief adviser, Ngo Dinh Nhu, was herself a politically powerful figure in Saigon until last fall. She has since lived in Paris. She applied there on June 11 for a six-month visa planning to address a "Truth Rally" of the Conservative party of Flushing, Queens on July 7, and other meetings.

The Flushing organizers of the rally, which was scheduled for Sunnyside Garden, Queens, plan to protest against the denial of the visa to Mrs. Nhu, as well as United States policy in Vietnam. Several members of Congress may join the protest.

Mrs. Nhu was touring the United States last fall when her family was deposed by a military junta, which itself was overthrown in February by Maj. Gen. Nguyen Khanh. Her theme then was that at least some American officials were responsible for the coup and she accused the Kennedy Administration of insufficient resistance to Communism in Asia.

She returned to this thesis in recent letters to Administration leaders, alleging that she had met with "rudeness" in applying for a visa.

Last Wednesday, she warned President Johnson that if "Washington tries once again to silence me," it will persuade the world that the free world's setback in Vietnam was due not to "individual crimes" but to a "concerted and continued official American policy."

Recalls a Johnson Visit

To prove that she did "not yet despair completely" about the United States, Mrs. Nhu recalled Mr. Johnson's visit to South Vietnam, when he was Vice President, and "insisted on my paying you a return visit to your Texas ranch."

"I recall this," she added, "because I think that you are still the man who came to



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BARRED FROM THE U.S.:
Mrs. Ngo Dinh Nhu, who has been kept out of country at urging of Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge.

Vietnam to sincerely and convincingly assure President Ngo Dinh Diem of American loyalty, and because as President of the United States, you are more than ever in debt to me personally now."

Mrs. Nhu wrote to Secretary Rusk on one before June 11, saying that unless she were admitted to the United States the world would believe more strongly "that American might is directed first against honest and loyal allies, sparing only gangsters, criminals and the enemy."

The State and Justice Departments are permitted under the Immigration and Naturalization Act to bar aliens whose activities would be "prejudicial to the public interest." Recently, the Administration has been reluctant to exclude critics of American policy, but the strong feelings of other Governments have periodically led to negative rulings.

In 1956, the United States barred Fidel Castro, then a young Cuba revolutionay, from a second visit. In 1960, after Dr. Castro had seized power,

Washington waned Cuba's deposed dictator, Fulgencio Batista, that he would be denied admission if he applied for a visa.

In 1961, a former Defense Minister in President Ngo Dinh Diem's Saigon Government, Minh Thong Ho, was denied a second visit to the United States because his trip might have Nhu's family.

She Sends a New Letter

Special to The New York Times

PARIS, June 24—Mrs. Ngo Dinh Nhu called on President Johnson, in a new letter to Washington today, to allow her to visit the United States. The State Department turned down her visa request yesterday.

Referring to the clause under which she was excluded, Mrs. Nhu said that it flattered her "that one weak woman can be considered as a danger to your country."

The United States Embassy here, in announcing yesterday the denial of a visa for Mrs. Nhu, said the action was under a clause that bars "aliens who the consular officer or the Attorney General knows or has reason to believe seek to enter the United States solely, principally or incidentally to engage in activities which would be prejudicial to the public interest or endanger the welfare, safety or security of the United States."

Mrs. Nhu said she was making her new letter to President Johnson. Public here before it could be delivered "just to be sure" that it reached Mr. Johnson.